

Message

From: Weber, Rebecca [Weber.Rebecca@epa.gov]
Sent: 1/23/2015 4:14:11 PM
To: Smith, Mark A. [Smith.Marka@epa.gov]
CC: Burns, Ward [Burns.Ward@epa.gov]; Tapp, Joshua [Tapp.Joshua@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Application status for generating RIN's

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

From: Smith, Mark A.
Sent: Friday, January 23, 2015 9:29 AM
To: Weber, Rebecca
Cc: Burns, Ward; Tapp, Joshua
Subject: FW: Application status for generating RIN's

Becky – FYI – This is the Mead, NE, plant Karl received an inquiry about. The right HQ folks are now in direct contact with the company (John Weihrauch, Director Fuels Compliance Center).

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Let me know if you have questions.
Thx

From: Burns, Ward
Sent: Friday, January 23, 2015 8:21 AM
To: Smith, Mark A.
Subject: FW: Application status for generating RIN's

From: Weihrauch, John
Sent: Friday, January 23, 2015 8:07 AM
To: Brown, Steven
Cc: Burns, Ward; Argyropoulos, Paul; Bunker, Byron; Manners, Mary; Dong, Jaimee
Subject: RE: Application status for generating RIN's

Hi Steven,

I spoke with Ward Burns last night and then gave Bryce Meeker at AltEn LLC a call.

The registration for this company is in process and our contractor and my staff have been in constant contact with the company as well as with the engineering company that is assisting them. Our RFS regulations require that a renewable fuel producer register with us 60 days prior to production – their initial submission was dated December 10, 2014 and we are still well within that time frame. AltEn complicated/delayed their position with us by not first registering their product with our Fuel and Fuel Additives Registration System (FFARS), which is a prerequisite for RFS registration approval. The FFARS registration was completed on Tuesday, and the company updated their online RFS registration information. Their recent submissions are being reviewed.

Further complicating AltEn's situation is the fact that they have begun producing renewable fuel and they are now running out of storage capacity. Mr. Meeker claims they cannot find a buyer for their RIN-less fuel, and that their only options to resolving their problem are either shutting down operations, or our approval of their registration. I explained that our registration requirements are very clear and that we would not advise a party to begin producing fuel prior to completing their registration to avoid the illegal introduction of fuel into commerce and the logistical complications like they are now facing.

Basically, I asked Mr. Meeker to be patient as we process his registration. I explained we would approve his registration when we have completed our review, that there are no shortcuts to this process, and that I am completely satisfied with the efforts of my contractors and staff given the short history of his registration. I offered to provide Mr. Meeker with a status update of his registration today and instructed him to contact me directly if he has any further questions or concerns.

Please let me know if you have any questions or if you need additional information.

Regards,
John Weihrauch, Director
Fuels Compliance Center
Compliance Division
Office of Transportation and Air Quality
202-343-9477

From: Brown, Steven
Sent: Thursday, January 22, 2015 1:03 PM
To: Weihrauch, John
Cc: Burns, Ward; Argyropoulos, Paul
Subject: Application status for generating RIN's

Hi John,
I am inquiring about the status of an application for generating RIN's that was submitted to EPA from a company called, AltEn LLC. Senator Caire McCaskill contacted Region 7 about this small ethanol producer's application status. Who would be the best contact person to receive a status update?

Thank you!!!

Steven Brown
USEPA REGION 7
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913-551-7718